

Fair tonight and  
Wednesday.  
Continued cold.

# The Washington Times

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## BROWN SLAYS WOMAN

Well-Known Horse-  
man Then Takes His  
Own Life.

Friends Believe Trag-  
edy the Result of  
Death Pact.

When Claude C. Gardner and Lee H. Smith, clerks for Leonard T. Brown, proprietor of a harness and buggy shop at 1234 Fourteenth street, opened the door of the store, this morning, a ghastly sight met their gaze. Lying on a cot in the back room in a pool of her own blood lay a young woman, afterward identified as Margaret Straub, of 1721 T street northwest. By the side of the cot, in blood covering almost a square yard, lay Leonard T. Brown, both cold in death.

Smith immediately ran to the telephone and called the Eighth precinct, immediately thereafter calling Brown's wife at the Brown residence, 1235 Columbia road. Although greatly shocked at the terrible information imparted to her over the phone, Mrs. Brown is said to have asked for particulars and remarked "I have been expecting something like this."

At the time, however, it is said young Smith did not acquaint the wife with the fact that before committing suicide her husband had also shot his companion who spent part of the night with him. Mrs. Brown did not know of this feature of the case until informed by a Times reporter later in the morning.

Woman Shot Three Times.

When Patrolmen Holmes and Walden arrived it was found that Miss Straub had three bullet wounds, one through the mouth, one back of the left ear, one through the left cheek, and one through the right hand. The hand wound was evidently inflicted by the same bullet which pierced the girl's cheek as Brown was found with three wounds, one of which was used upon himself. He was shot through the roof of the mouth, the shock breaking his neck.

Detective Parham arrived later in the morning, as did also Coroner Nesbit. Investigation immediately developed that it was a case of murder and suicide, and the coroner instructed that the bodies be taken to the morgue. But by the time the coroner was called, the bodies were already in the morgue. It was found that the bodies were already in the morgue. It was found that the bodies were already in the morgue. It was found that the bodies were already in the morgue.

Had Visited There Before.

The employees of the place, while reticent, intimate that this is not the first nocturnal visit paid Brown's apartment by the girl now dead, who was employed in the surfacing department of the Bureau of Printing and Engraving. Others said that some time Brown had been trying to break off the relation between himself and the young woman, and had at times appeared despondent over the matter.

Girl's Mother Is Prostrated.

Claude Gardner, one of the clerks in Brown's establishment, went to acquaint Mrs. Straub with the tragic death of her daughter, but on arriving at her apartment, found her so enfeebled that upon consultation with those in the apartment house it was decided to call Father Dunahoe, of St. Paul's Church, to break the terrible news. Mrs. Straub is prostrated by the shock. In her condition, grave fears are felt for her ultimate consequences.

Mrs. Brown, while plainly showing the signs of grief, said she had been expecting this morning to take charge of her late husband's effects, seemed reconciled in a measure as though such an end had been anticipated. This is explained by the fact that on January 5 last, Brown staggered out of his store at 4 o'clock in the morning nearly suffocated by escaping gas. It is stated that by those familiar with this occurrence, that it was evidently a case of intended suicide, but that he lost nerve before becoming unconscious. It is said that it was impossible for the pipes to have become unjointed as they were when found. Mrs. Brown evidently shares in this belief, as do the employees of the establishment.

Mrs. Brown, at the store this morning, said she knew of the existence of "another woman," but did not know her name. It is said Brown had admitted to his wife his infatuation for Miss Straub.

When found Miss Straub was lying upon her back upon a cot, fully dressed. On a work table just over the cot lay her furs, hat and cloak. Nearby lay Brown's coat and vest. He was in his shirt sleeves, with a collar of tie. A box of chocolate candy, with the contents nearly all gone, were found nearby, indicating that the couple had passed part of the evening pleasantly.

Time of Tragedy Not Known.

No one in the block remembers having heard any shots during the night. The time at which the tragedy was enacted is therefore a mystery. A tailor who lives next door said a colored man informed him that he heard shots in passing at 4 o'clock this morning, but this could not be confirmed. The police are of the opinion that the killing occurred earlier in the night, as it was perhaps the girl's intention to return to her mother before bedtime. Brown was last heard from at 10 o'clock in the evening when he telephoned Miss Straub.

## HUMMEL ASSISTS JEROME

Turns Over Famous  
Affidavit Signed by  
Evelyn Nesbit.

Document Long Be-  
lieved to Have Been  
Destroyed.

NEW YORK, Feb. 12.—The famous affidavit in which Evelyn Nesbit charged that she had suffered the grossest cruelties at the hands of Harry K. Thaw is in the hands of the district attorney.

Contrary to the belief of the young witness that it had been destroyed in her presence, it had been zealously guarded by A. H. Hummel, who after a secret conference with the prosecutor, turned it over to him.

This is regarded as the greatest piece of evidence in the possession of the State. Evelyn Nesbit Thaw testified that the accusations were conjured in Hummel's brain, and that she was forced to sign the paper at the dictation of Stanford White.

Declares Her Statement False.

The lawyer declares her sworn statement was false in every particular, and has volunteered to turn over to Mr. Jerome witnesses who will swear that after Evelyn Nesbit left Thaw in Paris and returned to New York that instead of the architect pursuing her she threw herself into his arms and voluntarily went to Mr. Hummel's office, and had him draw the damaging paper against the man who later became her husband.

Aside from the fact specific charges of cruelty are made against the slayer in the remarkable document, there are charges so circumstantial, the lawyer avers, he could not have drawn the paper without full information from the young woman herself.

The paper also contains names and dates which Hummel told the district attorney could be furnished by either one or two persons—the man on trial for his life or his pretty young wife—and certainly Thaw did not incriminate himself.

Paper Drawn by Hummel.

That the paper was drawn up by Hummel was a well-known fact before Mrs. Thaw testified in behalf of her husband. It was supposed the document had been destroyed. When the young woman told on the stand of its destruction the prisoner's friends felt that the most harmful thing against him before his marriage could not be brought out against him during the trial.

The fact that the district attorney treated with Hummel came as a great surprise to many, as they are bitter enemies. Jerome convicted Hummel for conspiracy in the Morse-Dodge scandal, for which he was sentenced to one year, and did much toward having him disbarred from practicing law. There are felony indictments hanging over the former lawyer, and notwithstanding the prosecutor has made him no promises, it is believed he will be lenient in return for the celebrated document.

Thaw's Birthday Anniversary.

Harry Thaw is thirty-seven years old today. When he awakened in his Tombs cell one of the guards handed him a pile of mail which had just been delivered. Most of the letters contained words of cheer and well wishes for the future. The prisoner was in an excellent frame of mind, and to one of his keepers smilingly remarked:

"This is a fine place to have a birthday."

Expert On Stand  
Tell's of Thaw's  
Mental Condition

NEW YORK, Feb. 12.—The Thaw trial was resumed this morning at 10:30 o'clock, and Dr. Britton D. Evans, of Morris Plains, N. J., alienist, was the first witness called to the stand by Lawyer Delmas.

Q.—How long have you been exercising your profession?  
A.—Since 1885.

Q.—What college or university did you graduate from?

A.—I graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, in Baltimore, in 1883.

Q.—Did you take a post-graduate course?

A.—Yes; in the Johns Hopkins University.

Q.—Are you a member of any medical society?

A.—Yes.

Q.—Are you connected with the New Jersey State Hospital for the Insane at Morris Plains?

A.—I was connected for four years as assistant superintendent. In May, 1892, I was elected superintendent, and have been continuously in charge ever since.

Q.—How many inmates are treated there?

A.—The average is about 1,500. This does not represent the total, for some die, others are discharged, and still others go away—escape.

Q.—Are all these unfortunate under your direct supervision?

A.—Yes, they are.

Q.—Have you also been an author of medical works?

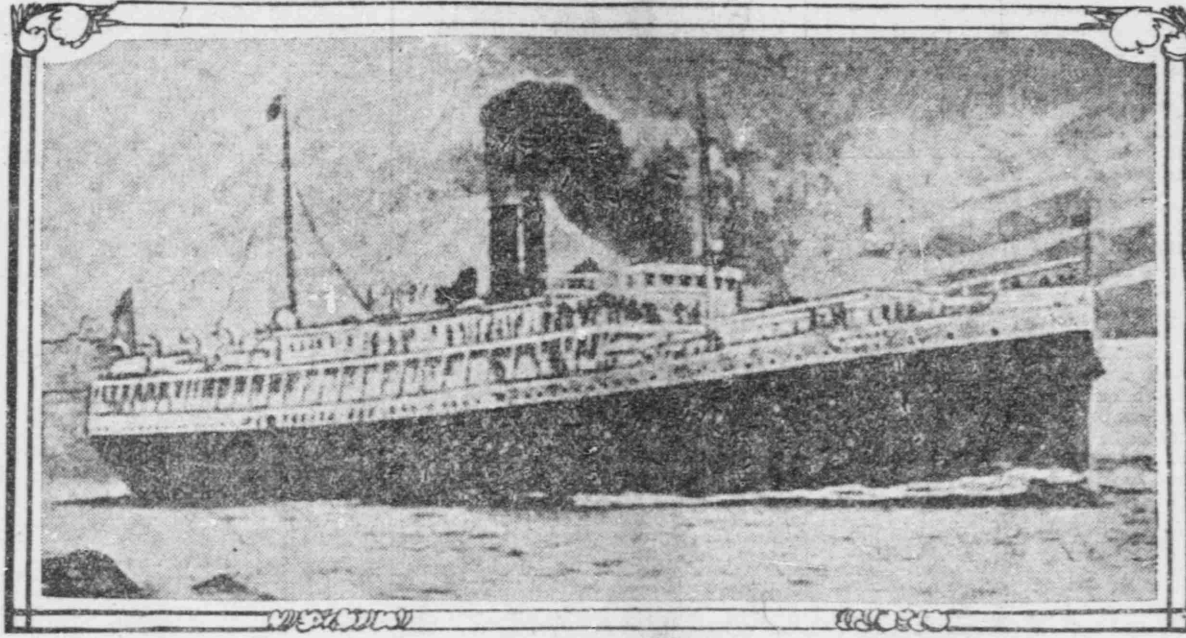
A.—Yes, I have written considerably.

Has Testified as Expert.

Q.—Have you appeared as expert witness in cases involving questions of mental unsoundness in courts of this State?

A.—Yes, in the past fourteen years I have been in most of the important cases in New Jersey in which mental

## 130 Lives Lost in Collision of Larchmont, Joy Line Steamer, With Schooner Knowlton. Many Freeze in Boats on the Way to Safety



Most of the Passengers Were in  
Cabins and Unable to Reach  
Deck Before Vessel Sank.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Feb. 12.—Probably 130 persons perished at sea off Quonochontaug Beach, Block Island, as a result of a collision today between the Joy Liner, Larchmont, with a crew of forty men and about 100 passengers, and the three-masted schooner, Harry Knowlton, with a crew of eight.

A single boat reached Block Island from the Larchmont containing eight living men and fourteen corpses, the latter frozen to death, after leaving the sinking ship. The Knowlton's crew escaped in safety in their own boat.

Just how the collision occurred is not clear. Survivors from the Larchmont say there was neither fog nor snow, but that a high sea was running.

When the ships crashed the schooner was not so badly crippled but that it was able to reach comparatively shallow water before the men took to their boat.

The Larchmont, however, went down soon after. Most of the passengers were in their staterooms, and so sudden was the disaster that few of them even reached the deck.

Except for the survivors who reached Block Island, it is believed everyone on board perished. Capt. George McVay was among the saved.

While it is possible that some of the other boats weathered the storm for a time, it is practically certain that they would before now have reached safety had they lived so long.

## Captain Vividly Tells Story of Fatal Clash

Capt. J. McVay, of the Larchmont, was in the first of the two boats that came ashore on Block Island. This is his own story of the accident and the sufferings of the survivors:

By CAPT. J. McVAY.

"We did what we could, God knows; it is no one's fault that so many died."

"The wreck occurred at 11 o'clock. There was a northwest gale at the time. The wind blew fifty miles an hour. I was on watch doing all I could. Every man of the crew was at his post. Suddenly, a three-masted schooner coming like a race horse bore down on us."

DRIVEN BEFORE WIND.

She was driving helpless before the wind. We could do nothing. Before we had a chance, she struck us broadside. Her sharp bow cut the Larchmont almost in half.

"I knew the vessel was doomed and ordered the boats lowered. The passengers were rushing on deck in their night clothes. It was bitterly cold. Before one-third had gotten on deck, the boat was settling."

"We had the two boats in the water and they were full. There was nothing more that we could do. I took command of the boats. We bore away from the Larchmont as she sank. The schooner had gone down, too. The swirl of the sinking boats almost carried us down. Then our little row boats were left to battle with the storm."

MERCURY BELOW ZERO.

"The wind, fifty miles an hour, swept us before it. I knew we were thirty miles from Block Island and had hopes to make that point. We could do nothing but drift and hope. The thermometer was at zero and some of those in the boats had little clothes. I gave my jacket to a man and one of the seamen did the same. The fighting and bailing constantly was awfully tiresome."

"Before we had gone an hour, the first man had died. They died faster and toward daylight ten had gone. Some of them were frozen stiff."

STORM GREW WORSE.

"The rest of us could only wait and watch to see what the day would bring. At last daylight came. In my boat there were three besides me alive."

"As the light began to come the storm, instead of abating, seemed to increase. The wind blew harder, the cold seemed to get more bitter. I knew two hours more would finish the strongest of us. It got lighter. At first the sea looked all the same. We had lived through the night only to face the hopelessness of day and die. One man in the boat passed away just at dawn."

## Knowlton's Commander Blames the Larchmont

QUONOCHONTAUG, R. I., Feb. 12.—Capt. Frank T. Haly, of the three-masted schooner Harry Knowlton, of Eastport, Me., and six of his crew are at the life-saving station here. The schooner is on the beach, half a mile below the station, and wreckers have been sent for from New London to get her off, if possible.

Capt. Haly tells the following story:

By CAPT. FRANK T. HALY.

"We were bound east sailing from City Island yesterday for Boston with a load of coal. The night was dark and the wind was blowing a gale from the northwest."

"We were sailing with a free wind when I suddenly saw the lights of a steamer in shore. The steamer was on the port tack and I supposed she would keep on her way."

"Suddenly she steered directly across our bows. It was too late for us to avoid a collision and with a terrible crash she carried away our headgear and cut us down forward."

"I called all the men to the pumps. The schooner backed away after the collision and after she had drifted about a quarter of a mile we lost sight of the steamer in the dark."

"We had all we could do to keep afloat and, when we got into striking distance of the beach, we took to the boats and came ashore."

"We could not tell whether the steamer was damaged nor could we make out her identity in the darkness."

Captain Haly and his men reached shore uninjured.

## Vessel Sank Swiftly And Few Reached Deck

BLOCK ISLAND, R. I., Feb. 12.—News of the Larchmont's loss first became known when a boatload of survivors, containing eight living men and fourteen frozen corpses, reached Block Island at Quonochontaug Point. The dead had perished with cold.

The survivors say the Larchmont went to the bottom within a few minutes after being rammed by the schooner. The collision occurred at 9 p. m. The night was clear, the sea rough, and the thermometer below zero. Captain Mc-

## GUNS SOUNDED LIKE CANNON, SAYS SANDERS

Shots From Brownsville,  
Senate Military Com-  
mittee Is Told.

First Sergeant Mingo Sanders, of B Company of the Twenty-fifth Regiment, resumed his testimony before the Senate Military Affairs Committee today and was rigorously cross-examined by Senator Warner.

Once more Sergeant Sanders declared the bullets that whizzed in his direction as he ran toward B barracks, and went in a general direction from north, in the town, to the south, across the reservation. He said he distinguished revolvers, 45-caliber, and Winchester of different caliber.

"Some of the guns sounded almost as large as cannon," declared the witness. "Something sounded almost like a 30-caliber. Some sounded almost like a gun. The Philippines they call the Remington. There might have been something as small as a Mauser. I heard no shotguns, to my knowledge."

The witness thought he heard 150 or 160 shots, but said this was a rough guess.

It was brought out again today in the cross-examination that when some of the men of B Company knelt down behind the wall, instead of standing up, Sergeant Sanders urged them to stand up and, if they had to die, "die like soldiers."

He said he made some remarks to the men he would not care to repeat. Senator Warner at first was inclined to insist on knowing what these remarks were, but did not press for an answer.

It was plain the sergeant had used some forcible language on this occasion.

Sergeant Sanders reiterated that his application for re-enlistment was given no attention at the War Department until after the Brownsville inquiry resolution passed the Senate.

Sergeant Sanders was cross-examined yesterday afternoon. He maintained he knew nothing of a conspiracy of silence and did not know who did the shooting. He admitted he had asked General Garlington to retain him in the service and confessed he deemed it his duty to "look out for Sanders first."

## TREASURY PAYS OUT MORE THAN IT GETS

Treasury statement—Today's Treasury statement: Receipts, \$1,554,000; expenditures, \$1,840,000.

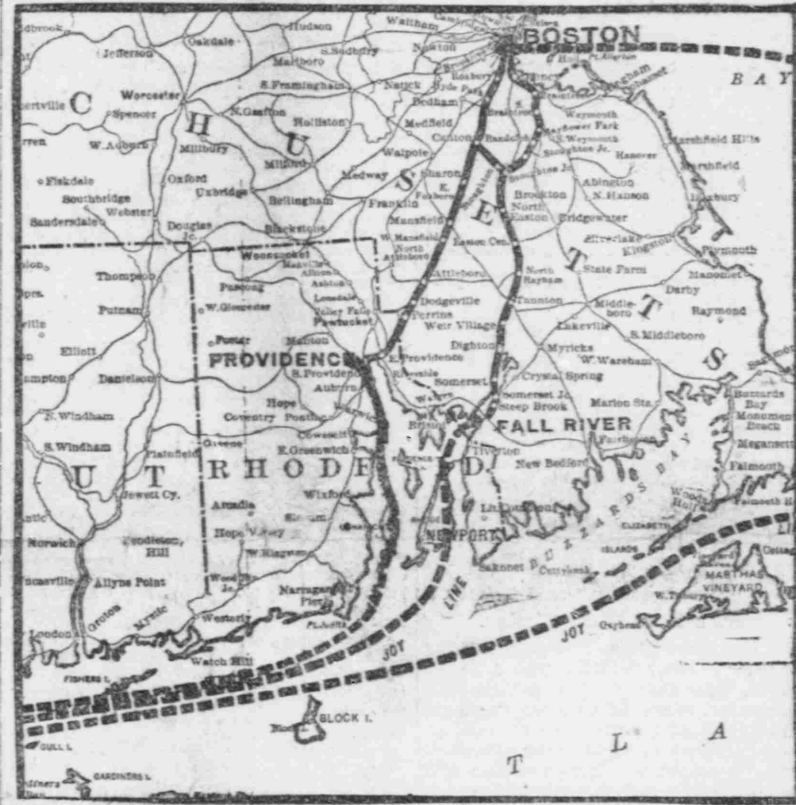
## GRADE DAMAGE CASES HEARD IN CITY HALL

The Union station grade damage commission today in the city hall began the hearing of evidence regarding damages to property on the south side of F street northwest, between North Capitol street and New Jersey avenue, alleged to have resulted from the change in the grade of F street, made by order of the District Commissioners to provide approaches to the Union station.

MRS. PIERCE WILL BE  
BURIED THIS AFTERNOON

Funeral services for Mrs. Nancy S. Pierce, who died on Sunday in the home of her son, 1455 S street northwest, will be held at 3:30 o'clock this afternoon from the latter address. Later the body will be taken to Phelps, N. Y., Mrs. Pierce's old home, where burial will be made.

Mrs. Pierce had been ill less than a week. On Monday of last week she was stricken with apoplexy, and remained in an unconscious condition until her death on Sunday. Mrs. Pierce was eighty-three years old, and a native of Windham, Conn. She lived the greater part of her life, however, in Phelps, N. Y., but came to Washington about five years ago to make her home with her son, George H. Pierce.



## HUMAN CHAIN RESCUES NINE FROM BIG FIRE

Philadelphia Banking Dis-  
trict Threatened by  
the Flames.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Feb. 12.—Fire shortly before 8 o'clock destroyed the building occupied by the Phoenix Pants Company, 105 South Third street, in the banking district, and quickly spread to adjoining buildings, and, fanned by a high wind, threatened to destroy many properties.

One man, Louis Dobestkey, forty years old, a trousers finisher, jumped to his death from the fourth-story window of the Phoenix building, and it was rumored that a number of girls were hemmed in by the flames and burned to death.

Nine men escaped to the Western Union building by forming a human chain.

The building occupied by the Phoenix Company, and the one at 197 South Third street adjoining, occupied by Dume, Son & Co., cotton and linens, are completely gutted. The roofs of the buildings, 216 and 218 Chestnut street, caught fire and the firemen worked heroically to save them.

## THE WEATHER REPORT.

Steamers departing today for European ports will have fresh northwesterly winds and fair weather to the Grand Banks.

TEMPERATURE.

9 a. m. .... 14  
12 noon ..... 22  
1 p. m. .... 23

DOWNTOWN TEMPERATURE.

9 a. m. .... 17  
12 noon ..... 20  
1 p. m. .... 23

SUN TABLE.

Sun sets today ..... 5:32  
Sun rises tomorrow ..... 6:55

TIDE TABLE.

High tide today ..... 8:10 a. m.  
Low tide today ..... 2:14 p. m.  
High tide tomorrow ..... 9:02 p. m.  
Low tide tomorrow ..... 2:54 a. m.  
3:05 p. m.

HARPERS FERRY, W. Va., Feb. 12.—Both rivers clear.

## FORTY KILLED AND MANGLED IN EXPLOSION

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 12.—Forty men were killed outright and scores injured by an explosion in the mines at Bakhmut today. The bodies of the dead were all horribly mangled.

## TRAIL OF BLOOD IN CATTLE WAR

Remarkable testimony as to the violence and fierceness of the war between the cattlemen and sheepmen of the West was given before the Senate Committee on Agriculture in a hearing on Senator Burkett's amendment to the agricultural appropriation bill. This amendment authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to district the unreserved lands of the United States and charge and collect reasonable fees for grazing.

A trail of blood of assassinations, of stock maimed and destroyed, has been left across the country from Nebraska to California, as the result of difficulties with the cattlemen," said Robert Taylor, of Abbott, Neb., in urging the Burkett amendment.

Sheepmen who opposed the amendment, said that it would invite corruption to turn loose an army of special agents.

President Roosevelt sent a letter to Senator Warren in favor of Government range control and lease to the stockmen under proper regulations.

Can't Bar Papers  
Printing the Trial

Postmaster General Cortelyou, after a consultation with the legal officials of his department, has concluded that it will be impossible to bar from the mails the newspapers that are printing or have printed the testimony of the Thaw trial.